

Training and Doctrine Command schools and in facilities available to the National Guard. Although these courses are also primarily for LRS units, they are useful for other units that need to be able to conduct vehicle identification training.

Further information on the target sheet sets is available from Commander, U.S. Army Infantry Center, ATTN: ATZB-IST, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5372; telephone DSN 835-1561 or commercial (706) 545-1561. Additional information

on the interactive video disk courses may be requested from Mr. Noble at DSN 835-2488 or commercial (706) 545-2488.

Vehicle identification is a skill that must be renewed periodically, and these courses will be critical for LRS unit home station training. In addition to the LRS Unit Course at Fort Benning, which covers a week-long block of threat instruction, the two-week Target Process Course taught at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, trains officers in the Army targeting

process and in targeting operations at division level and higher. Together, these courses should improve the joint targeting capability for all U.S. armed forces.

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FIFTY YEARS AGO IN WORLD WAR II JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1944

By the beginning of 1944, the Axis Powers were no longer able to recover from their steadily mounting losses in men, materiel, and territory. In spite of stubborn resistance, Allied ground forces in Italy had secured beachheads, pushed inland, and begun mounting a final offensive against the Germans' heavily defended Winter Line. On the Russian Front, the Soviets seized the initiative following a breakthrough in the Kirovograd area, encircling and destroying pockets of resistance. In the Pacific, Japanese positions in the Solomon, Bismarck, and Marshall Islands fell before the relentless pressure of the U.S. Army and Marine Corps, while the air and sea power of the U.S. Navy hammered away at the steadily dwindling numbers of operational Japanese ships and aircraft.

These and other highlights of World War II are excerpted from Bud Hannings' superb chronology, A Portrait of the Stars and Stripes, Volume II (available for \$50.00 from Seniram Publishing, Inc., P.O. Box 432, Glenside, PA 19038).

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| 2 January | <i>British General Sir Harold Alexander—15th Army Group Commander—orders the U.S. Fifth Army to prepare for a landing at Anzio, south of Rome.</i> |
| 3 January | <i>Soviet Army seizes Olevsk, northwest of Kiev, and Novograd-Volynski; and penetrates the prewar frontier of Poland for the first time in the war.</i> |
| 20 January | <i>Advancing Soviet forces surround German units, cutting off their route to the Gulf of Finland.</i> |
| 22 January | <i>The VI U.S. Corps lands at Anzio, gaining complete surprise. Ordered to establish a beachhead before advancing inland, the force delays 10 days, allowing German infantry, armor, and artillery to isolate and pound the beachhead for more than three months.</i> |
| 30 January | <i>During heavy fighting on Bougainville, in the Solomons, Staff Sergeant Jesse Drowley climbs atop a tank to direct fire against a machinegun that has his company pinned down. Although shot through the chest, he continues to direct fire until the bunker is destroyed, but another bullet blinds his left eye. He is later awarded the Medal of Honor.</i> |
| 4 February | <i>Elements of the U.S. 7th Infantry Division overcome the last enemy resistance on Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands.</i> |
| 16-20 February | <i>German forces hurl massive attacks against Allied positions at Anzio in an offensive that lasts four days. U.S. and British forces hold, but at the cost of high casualties and equipment losses on both sides.</i> |
| 20 February | <i>The United States Strategic Air Force commences a week of heavy bombing raids on Braunschweig and Leipzig, with more than 1,000 bombers participating. Five days later, bombers will hit Regensburg, Stuttgart, Augsburg, and Fuerth.</i> |
| 28 February | <i>Allied planners confer in Caserta, Italy, to plan the drive on to Rome.</i> |